House Resolution No. 4085

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State residents who patriotically answered the call to national service through their enlistment in the various branches of the United States military during perilous times; and

Whereas, Gene Dorsey has attained considerable distinction as a citizen who resides in Saint Louis, Missouri; and

Whereas, during World War II Gene Dorsey was a member of the United States Navy Armed Guard which performed a crucial role in the Allied victory over the aggressor nations of Germany, Italy, and Japan; and

Whereas, originally established during World War I, the Navy Armed Guard was reactivated by the United States Congress in November 1941 to protect merchant cargo ships and troop transports in theaters of war throughout the world; and

Whereas, before the Navy Armed Guard was deactivated at the end of World War II, approximately 144,000 personnel had served in its ranks on board 6,230 merchant ships; and

Whereas, members of the Navy Armed Guard earned numerous citations for heroism, and five United States destroyer escort warships bear the names of guardsmen who gave their lives in battle; and

Whereas, merchant cargo ships and troop transports faced such dangers as U-boat wolf packs, enemy aircraft, surface warships, and mines; and

Whereas, Navy Armed Guardsmen accompanied ships which replenished the Russian Army through the ports of Archangel and Murmansk after a harrowing journey through the Arctic Ocean with its ferocious storms and German planes, ships, and submarines:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, join unanimously to salute Gene Dorsey and to convey to him this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation of his service in the United States Navy Armed Guard during World War II; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for presentation to Gene Dorsey of Saint Louis, Missouri.

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 4085, adopted September 15, 2004.